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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : TERASHIMA et al.
Serial No : 09/407,446
Confirm. No. :
Filed : September 29, 1999
For : APPARATUS EQUIPPED...
Art Unit : 2622
Examiner : M. Nguyen
Dated : January 30, 2002

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Attached please find Form PTO-1449 together with the references as listed below. All of the below listed references were cited in a Japanese office action pertaining to Japanese Patent Application 08-292829, from which this above listed U.S. Application claims priority. An English translation of the Japanese Office Action is enclosed. English abstracts are provided for each of the Japanese language patents.

- JP 08-143189 describes a paper guiding device to reliably feed paper into an electronic apparatus utilizing guide plates. This document was cited by the Japanese Examiner as a document relating to the novelty of Japanese Patent Application 08-292829 if combined with the knowledge of a person generally skilled in the art.

- JP 07-046368 describes a paper feeder designed to reduce the generation of troubles encountered by paper feeding systems, and to improve the sealing properties of the feed system

for cut sheets of paper, especially to prevent the entry of dust into the equipment. This document was cited by the Japanese Examiner as a document relating to the novelty of Japanese Patent Application 08-292829 if combined with the knowledge of a person generally skilled in the art.

-JP 08-133531 describes a paper tray for image forming equipment designed to prevent yellowing or staining of the recording paper in the tray. This document was cited by the Japanese Examiner as a document relating to the novelty of Japanese Patent Application 08-292829 if combined with the knowledge of a person generally skilled in the art.

-JP 63-197682 describes a personal word processor incorporating a means for a detachable printing device where input/output controls are established using corresponding engageable connectors on both the word processor and printing device. This document was cited by the Japanese Examiner as a document relating to the novelty of Japanese Patent Application 08-292829 if combined with the knowledge of a person generally skilled in the art.

-JP 08-198480 describes a foldable paper sheet tray designed to resist damage if overloaded by allowing the tray to fold down or collapse without damage if a predetermined load is exceeded. This document was cited as general prior art for Japanese Patent Application 08-292829.

Favorable action on the merits of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted
for Applicant,

By: _____


John James McGlew

Registration No. 31,903

McGLEW AND TUTTLE, P.C.

JJM:esd

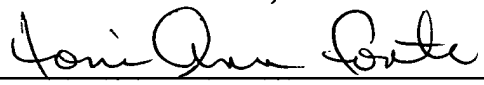
Enclosed: -PTO-1449 Form
 -English Translation of Japanese Office Action pertaining to Japanese Priority
 Application 08-292829
 -Cited References & English Abstracts of Cited References

DATED: January 30, 2002
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